

receipt



Docket No.: KCC-13368.10

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Maria RAIDEL  
Franz ASCHENBRENNER

Serial No.: 09/402,059

Filing Date: 14 February 2000

Title: ABSORBENT ARTICLE

**REQUEST FOR CORRECTION OF OFFICIAL  
CORRECTED FILING RECEIPT**

**Application Processing Division  
Customer Correction Branch**  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Dear Sir:

Applicants are in receipt of the official Corrected Filing Receipt issued in connection with the subject U.S. patent application by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Applicants note that the official Corrected Filing Receipt **incorrectly** indicates the number of Total Claims as 1 and the number of Independent Claims as 1. The correct number of Total Claims is **67** and the correct number of

I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on

20 December 2000

20 Dec- 2000

Date

Michael J. Pelton

Signature

Serial No.: 09/402,059

Docket No.: KCC-13368.10

Independent Claims is 3. Applicants are enclosing herewith a copy of the First Preliminary Amendment, a copy of the Certificate of Mailing by Express Mail and a copy of the return receipt postcard stamped by the mailroom of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Applicants are also enclosing a copy of the official Corrected Filing Receipt with the requested corrections shown thereon in red.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that a Corrected Filing Receipt showing the correct number of Total Claims as 67 and the correct number of Independent Claims as 3 be issued by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

Respectfully submitted,



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Docket No.: KCC-13368.10

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Maria RAIDEL  
Franz ASCHENBRENNER

Title: ABSORBENT ARTICLE

Based Upon: PCT/EP98/01684

Express Mail No.: EL456498477US

Date of Deposit: 27 September 1999

FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box PCT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Please enter the following preliminary amendment to the above-identified patent application.

In the Specification:

Page 1, line 7, delete "Description" and insert --FIELD OF THE INVENTION--;

line 9, insert --BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION--;

line 15, after "they" delete "comprise" and insert --include--;

line 17, before "article" delete "said";

line 18, before "article" delete "said"; and

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line 19, after "use;" delete "as well as" and insert --and--.

Page 2, line 11, before "leads" delete "liquid; this" and insert  
--liquid. This--;

delete text beginning at Page 2, line 27 and ending at Page 2,  
line 33; and

line 34, insert --SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--.

Page 3, line 3, before "absorbent" delete "said"; and  
line 18, after "layer" delete "comprises" and insert  
--includes--.

Page 4, line 10, after "body" delete "comprising" and insert  
--including--;

line 13, before "layer" delete "said"; and

line 30, before "a" delete "comprise" and insert --include--.

Page 7, line 14, after "can" delete "however"; and

line 36, after "also" delete "comprise" and insert --include--.

Page 8, line 12, before "microcapsules" delete "said".

Page 17, line 19, after "can" delete "comprise" and insert --include--.

Page 18, line 13, after "can" delete "comprise" and insert --include;

line 17, after "chamber" delete "comprises" and insert --  
includes--; and

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line 24, after "body" delete "comprising" and insert

--including--.

Page 20, line 18, after "it" delete "comprises" and insert --includes--;

line 22, before "a" delete "comprises" and insert --includes--;

line 29, after "can" delete "comprise" and insert --include--;

and

line 36, before "a" delete "comprising" and insert

--including--.

Page 21, line 1, after "also" delete "comprise" and insert --include--;

line 4, before "an" delete "comprises" and insert --includes--;

line 6, after "can" delete "comprise" and insert --include--;

line 16, after "layer" delete "comprising" and insert

--including--;

line 31, after "can" delete "comprise" and insert --include--;

and

line 34, after "can" delete "comprise" and insert --include--.

Page 22, line 3, before "a" delete "comprise" and insert --include--;

line 14, before "at" delete "comprise and insert --include--;

line 16, after "also" delete "comprise" and insert --include--;

and

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line 17, insert --BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE  
DRAWINGS--.

Page 25, line 28, insert --DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE  
PRESENTLY PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS--; and

line 36, before "a frontal" delete "comprising" and insert  
--including--.

Page 26, line 25, after "core" delete "comprises" and insert --includes--.

Page 27, line 3, before "tied-in" delete "comprises" and insert  
--includes--.

Page 28, line 4, after "The" delete "said";

line 11, after "is" delete "consists" and insert --made--;

line 13, before "the" delete "consists of" and insert  
--includes--; and

line 14, before "tied-in" delete "said" and after "areas"  
insert --48--.

Page 29, line 20, after "also" delete "comprise" and insert --include--.

In the Drawings:

Please delete the drawing having no number, which is entitled "Figure  
for publication with the Abstract."

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In the Claims:

Please cancel Claims 1-44, and add the following new Claims 45-111.

45. An absorbent article, comprising:  
a liquid-permeable layer;  
a substantially liquid-impermeable layer; and  
an absorbent body between the liquid-permeable layer and the  
substantially liquid-impermeable layer;  
the absorbent body comprising a flowable absorbent material which  
remains able to flow after contact with a liquid.

46. The absorbent article of Claim 45, wherein the flowable  
absorbent material comprises absorbent particles.

47. The absorbent article of Claim 46, wherein the absorbent  
particles comprise spherical particles.

48. The absorbent article of Claim 46, wherein the absorbent  
particles have a diameter of about 100-2000 microns.

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49. The absorbent article of Claim 46, wherein the absorbent particles have a diameter of about 200-800 microns.

50. The absorbent article of Claim 45, wherein the flowable absorbent material comprises polymethylene area.

51. The absorbent article of Claim 50, wherein the polymethylene urea constitutes at least about one third by weight of the flowable absorbent material.

52. The absorbent article of Claim 50, wherein the polymethylene urea constitutes at least about one half by weight of the flowable absorbent material.

53. The absorbent article of Claim 50, wherein the polymethylene urea constitutes at least about two thirds by weight of the flowable absorbent material.

54. The absorbent article of Claim 50, wherein the polymethylene urea constitutes at least about 80% by weight of the flowable absorbent material.

55. The absorbent article of Claim 50, wherein the flowable absorbent material consists essentially of the polymethylene urea.

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56. The absorbent article of Claim 50, wherein the polymethylene urea is substantially free of ether groups and formaldehyde.

57. The absorbent article of Claim 45, wherein the flowable absorbent material comprises a superabsorbent material.

58. The absorbent article of Claim 57, wherein the superabsorbent material comprises a polyacrylate.

59. The absorbent article of Claim 45, wherein the absorbent body further comprises a fibrous matrix, and the flowable absorbent material is disposed within the matrix.

60. The absorbent article of Claim 45, wherein the absorbent body further comprises at least one care substance.

61. The absorbent article of Claim 60, wherein the care substance comprises a material selected from extracts of aloe vera, marigold, chamomile, and combinations thereof.

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62. The absorbent article, comprising:  
a substantially liquid-impermeable layer;  
an absorbent body connected to the substantially liquid-impermeable layer in a central region of the substantially liquid-impermeable layer; and  
a liquid permeable layer over a side of the absorbent body opposite the substantially liquid-impermeable layer;  
the absorbent body comprising a flowable absorbent material which remains able to flow after contact with a liquid.

63. The absorbent article of Claim 62, wherein the absorbent body and substantially liquid-impermeable layer are connected using an adhesive.

64. The absorbent article of Claim 62, wherein the absorbent body and substantially liquid-impermeable layer are connected using one or more seams.

65. The absorbent article of Claim 62, wherein the absorbent body further comprises a secondary storage layer including a soft absorbent material.

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66. The absorbent article of Claim 65, wherein the soft absorbent material comprises a material selected from coform materials, airlaid materials, tissue cotton-wools, and combinations thereof.

67. The absorbent article of Claim 65, wherein the soft absorbent material comprises a nonwoven material selected from spunbond fabrics, carded webs, and combinations thereof.

68. The absorbent article of Claim 62, wherein the absorbent body further comprises a fibrous matrix, and the flowable absorbent material is disposed within the matrix.

69. The absorbent article of Claim 68, wherein the flowable absorbent material is disposed substantially homogeneously within the matrix.

70. The absorbent article of Claim 62, wherein the absorbent body further comprises two or more layers of a fibrous material, and the flowable absorbent material is disposed between the layers of fibrous material.

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71. The absorbent article of Claim 68, wherein the fibrous matrix comprises a material selected from cellulose, a cellulose/polypropylene mixture, a coform material, and combinations thereof.

72. The absorbent article of Claim 70, wherein the two or more layers of fibrous material comprise a material selected from cellulose, a cellulose/polypropylene mixture, a coform material, and combinations thereof.

73. The absorbent article of Claim 68, wherein the absorbent body comprises the fibrous material and flowable absorbent material in a weight ratio of about 99-75% fibrous material to about 1-25% flowable absorbent material.

74. The absorbent article of Claim 73, wherein the weight ratio is about 95-80% fibrous material to about 5-20% flowable absorbent material.

75. The absorbent article of Claim 73, wherein the weight ratio is about 90-85% fibrous material to about 10-15% flowable absorbent material.

76. The absorbent article of Claim 62, wherein the absorbent body further comprises at least one care substance.

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77. The absorbent article of Claim 76, wherein the care substance comprises a material selected from extracts of aloe vera, marigold, chamomile, and combinations thereof.

78. The absorbent article of Claim 76, wherein the care substance is enclosed in microcapsules.

79. The absorbent article of Claim 78, wherein the care substance is releaseable from the microcapsules in response to heat or pressure.

80. The absorbent article of Claim 62, wherein the flowable absorbent material is treated with a substance selected from bactericidal, fungicidal and viricidal substances, and combinations thereof.

81. The absorbent article of Claim 80, wherein the substance comprises a bactericidal substance selected from chlorinated levulinic acid, alkyl dimethylbenzylammonium halogenides, and combinations thereof.

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82. The absorbent article of Claim 62, wherein the flowable absorbent material remains flowable after absorbing at least 10 ml liquid per gram of flowable absorbent material.

83. The absorbent article of Claim 62, wherein the flowable absorbent material comprises absorbent particles.

84. The absorbent article of Claim 83, wherein the absorbent particles comprise spherical particles.

85. The absorbent article of Claim 83, wherein the spherical particles have a diameter of about 100-2000 microns.

86. The absorbent article of Claim 83, wherein the spherical particles have a diameter of about 200-800 microns.

87. The absorbent article of Claim 62, wherein the flowable absorbent material comprises polymethylene urea.

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88. The absorbent article of Claim 87, wherein the polymethylene urea constitutes at least one third of the flowable absorbent material.

89. The absorbent article of Claim 87, wherein the polymethylene urea constitutes at least one half of the flowable absorbent material.

90. The absorbent article of Claim 87, wherein the polymethylene urea constitutes at least two thirds of the flowable absorbent material.

91. The absorbent article of Claim 87, wherein the polymethylene urea constitutes at least 80% of the flowable absorbent material.

92. The absorbent article of Claim 87, wherein the flowable absorbent material consists essentially of the polymethylene urea.

93. The absorbent article of Claim 87, wherein the polymethylene urea is substantially free of ether groups and formaldehyde.

94. The absorbent article of Claim 62, wherein the flowable absorbent material comprises a superabsorbent material.

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95. The absorbent article of Claim 94, wherein the superabsorbent material comprises a polyacrylate.

96. The absorbent article of Claim 62 having a length and a width, wherein the absorbent body comprises at least one core which contains the flowable absorbent material, the core having a length that is less than or equal to the length of the absorbent article, and a width that is less than or equal to the width of the absorbent article.

97. The absorbent article of Claim 62, wherein the absorbent body comprises at least two chambers, and at least one wall between the chambers.

98. The absorbent article of Claim 97, wherein the wall is aligned in a longitudinal direction of the absorbent article.

99. The absorbent article of Claim 97, wherein the wall is aligned in a transverse direction of the absorbent article.

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100. The absorbent article of Claim 97, comprising at least one wall aligned in a longitudinal direction of the absorbent article and at least one wall aligned in a transverse direction of the absorbent article.

101. The absorbent article of Claim 96, wherein the core comprises a plurality of chambers.

102. A hygiene article, comprising:  
a liquid-permeable layer;  
a substantially liquid-impermeable layer; and  
an absorbent body between the liquid-permeable layer and the substantially liquid-impermeable layer;  
the absorbent body comprising a flowable absorbent material which remains able to flow after contact with a liquid.

103. The hygiene article of Claim 102, comprising a feminine hygiene article.

104. The hygiene article of Claim 102, comprising a sanitary napkin.

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105. The hygiene article of Claim 102, comprising a panty liner.

106. The hygiene article of Claim 102, wherein the liquid-permeable layer comprises a central aperture.

107. The absorbent article of Claim 1, comprising a diaper.

108. The absorbent article of Claim 1, comprising an incontinence pad.

109. The absorbent article of Claim 62, comprising a feminine hygiene article.

110. The absorbent article of Claim 62, comprising a diaper.

111. The absorbent article of Claim 62, comprising an incontinence pad.

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**REMARKS**

The specification has been amended to correct various informalities.

The claims have been rewritten in U.S. format. No new matter has been added.

Respectfully submitted,



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Docket No.: KCC-13368.18

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Maria RAIDEL  
Franz ASCHENBRENNER

Title: ABSORBENT ARTICLE

Serial No.: 09/402,059

Based Upon: PCT/EP97/05160

Express Mail No.: EL456496198US

Date of Deposit: 14 February 2000

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

I hereby certify that the following requisites of the subject patent application are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail Post Office to Addressee No. EL456496198US, on 14 February 2000, and is addressed to Box PCT, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, together with the items listed below.

- Transmittal Letter (Form PTO-1390), in duplicate
- Executed German Language Declaration

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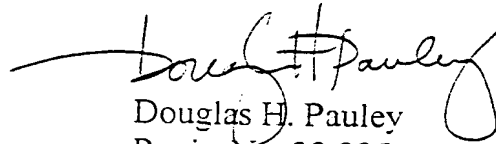
09/402,059

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- Recordation Form Cover Sheet, together with executed Assignment Document
- A check in the amount of \$170.00 to cover the fees set forth in the Transmittal Letter
- Copy of the Notification of Missing Requirements Under 35 U.S.C. 371 in the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US)
- Return Receipt Postcard

Respectfully submitted,

  
Douglas H. Pauley  
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1 Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Please affix the USPTO receipt stamp hereon as evidence of receipt of the following enclosed papers.

- Transmittal Letter (Form PTO-1390), in duplicate
- Unexecuted German Language Declaration, attached to a German language copy of the Int. Appl.
- English language translation of the International Application
- First Preliminary Amendment
- English language copy of the International Search Report, Form PCT/ISA/210 - 4 pages
- A check in the amount of \$1,686.00 to cover the fees set forth in the Transmittal Letter
- Certificate of Mailing by Express Mail (2 pages)

By Express Mail No. EL456498477US mailed on 27 September 1999.

Applicants: Maria RAIDEL et al.  
Title: ABSORBENT ARTICLE  
Based Upon: PCT/EP98/01684

09/402059

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Maxwell J. Petersen

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## CORRECTED FILING RECEIPT



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APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING DATE	GRP ART UNIT	FIL FEE REC'D	ATTY. DOCKET NO	DRAWINGS	TOT CLAIMS	IND CLAIMS
09/402,059	02/14/2000	3735	1816	KCC-13368.10	15	X 67	X 3

PAULEY PETERSEN KINNE & FEJER  
2800 WEST HIGGINS ROAD  
SUITE 365  
HOFFMAN ESTATES, IL 60195

Date Mailed: 04/10/2000

Receipt is acknowledged of this nonprovisional Patent Application. It will be considered in its order and you will be notified as to the results of the examination. Be sure to provide the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION when inquiring about this application. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please write to the Office of Initial Patent Examination's Customer Service Center. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the PTO processes the reply to the Notice, the PTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections (if appropriate).

## Applicant(s)

MARIA RAIDEL, NURNBERG, GERMANY;  
FRANZ ASCHENBRENNER, KASTL, GERMANY;

## Continuing Data as Claimed by Applicant

THIS APPLICATION IS A 371 OF PCT/EP98/01684 03/23/1998

## Foreign Applications

GERMANY 197 13 189.1 03/27/1997  
GERMANY 197 13 190.5 03/27/1997  
GERMANY 198 06 575.2 02/17/1998

If Required, Foreign Filing License Granted 03/02/2000

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## Title

ABSORBENT ARTICLE

## Preliminary Class

604

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Title 35, United States Code, Section 184  
Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, 5.11 & 5.15**

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- No license under 35 U.S.C. 184 has been granted at this time, if the phrase "IF REQUIRED, FOREIGN FILING LICENSE GRANTED" DOES NOT appear on this form. Applicant may still petition for a license under 37 CFR 5.12, if a license is desired before the expiration of 6 months from the filing date of the application. If 6 months has lapsed from the filing date of this application and the licensee has not received any indication of a secrecy order under 35 U.S.C. 181, the licensee may foreign file the application pursuant to 37 CFR 5.15(b).

**PLEASE NOTE the following information about the Filing Receipt:**

- The articles such as "a," "an" and "the" are not included as the first words in the title of an application. They are considered to be unnecessary to the understanding of the title.
- The words "new," "improved," "improvements in" or "relating to" are not included as first words in the title of an application because a patent application, by nature, is a new idea or improvement.
- The title may be truncated if it consists of more than 600 characters (letters and spaces combined).
- The docket number allows a maximum of 25 characters.
- If your application was submitted under 37 CFR 1.10, your filing date should be the "date in" found on the Express Mail label. If there is a discrepancy, you should submit a request for a corrected Filing Receipt along with a copy of the Express Mail label showing the "date in."

Any corrections that may need to be done to your Filing Receipt should be directed to:

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Office of Initial Patent Examination  
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Bib Data Sheet

CONFIRMATION NO. 5484

<b>SERIAL NUMBER</b> 09/402,059	<b>FILING DATE</b> 02/14/2000 <b>RULE</b>	<b>CLASS</b> 604	<b>GROUP ART UNIT</b> 3735	<b>ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.</b> KCC-13368.10	
<b>APPLICANTS</b> MARIA RAIDEL, NURNBERG, GERMANY; FRANZ ASCHENBRENNER, KASTL, GERMANY;					
<b>** CONTINUING DATA *****</b> THIS APPLICATION IS A 371 OF PCT/EP98/01684 03/23/1998 <i>SW</i>					
<b>** FOREIGN APPLICATIONS *****</b> GERMANY 197 13 189.1 03/27/1997 GERMANY 197 13 190.5 03/27/1997 <i>SW</i> GERMANY 198 06 575.2 02/17/1998					
<b>IF REQUIRED, FOREIGN FILING LICENSE</b> <b>GRANTED ** 03/02/2000</b>					
Foreign Priority claimed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no 35 USC 119 (a-d) conditions <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no <input type="checkbox"/> Met after met <i>SW</i> Allowance Verified and Acknowledged <i>SW</i> Examiner's Signature Initials		<b>STATE OR COUNTRY</b> GERMANY	<b>SHEETS DRAWING</b> 15	<b>TOTAL CLAIMS</b> 67	<b>INDEPENDENT CLAIMS</b> 3
<b>ADDRESS</b> PAULEY PETERSEN KINNE & FEJER 2800 WEST HIGGINS ROAD SUITE 365 HOFFMAN ESTATES, IL 60195					
<b>TITLE</b> ABSORBENT ARTICLE					
<b>FILING FEE RECEIVED</b> 1816	FEES: Authority has been given in Paper No. _____ to charge/credit DEPOSIT ACCOUNT No. _____ for following:		<input type="checkbox"/> All Fees <input type="checkbox"/> 1.16 Fees ( Filing ) <input type="checkbox"/> 1.17 Fees ( Processing Ext. of time ) <input type="checkbox"/> 1.18 Fees ( Issue ) <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Credit		